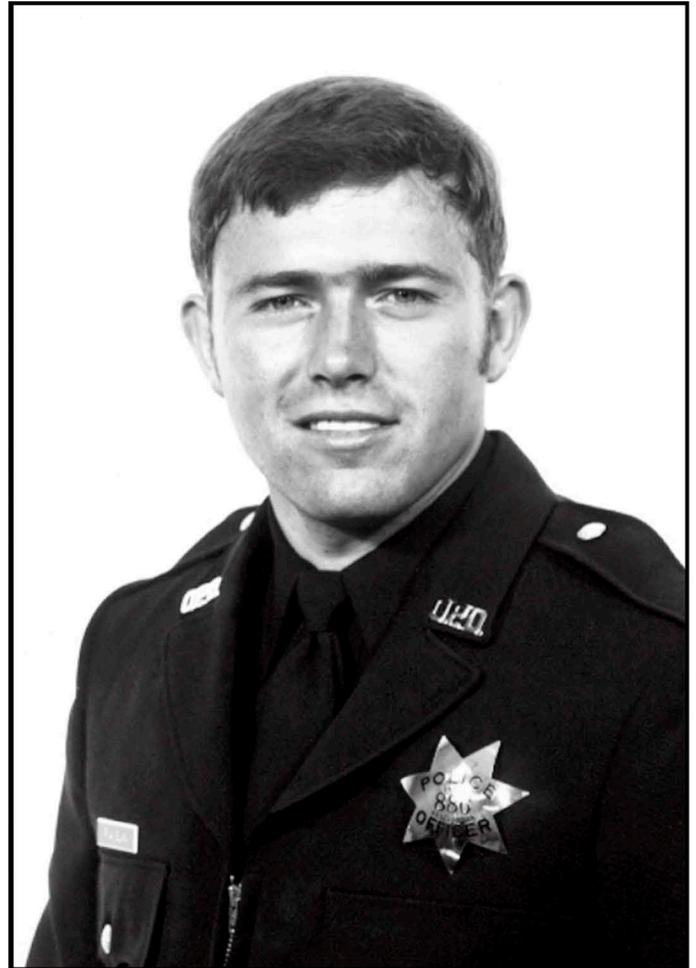




## ROBERT BLAN

May 23, 1973



Officer Robert Blan was on patrol in West Oakland the early morning hours of May 23, 1973. At 2:35 A.M. he conducted a car stop at Seventh and Pine Streets. During the stop Officer Blan called for a cover unit.

Before the arrival of his cover, Officer Blan found himself engaged in a struggle with the occupant of the car. Officer Blan's revolver was taken from him. When Sgt. Frank Mellott and Officer David McGill arrived at the scene of the car stop, they found Officer Blan's police car, but could not find the officer. A search of the area was conducted, and Officer Blan was found a half a block away in a vacant lot. He was lying face down and appeared to have been shot three times. An ambulance was called and Officer Blan was transported to Kaiser Hospital, but he never regained consciousness.

When Sgt. Mellott and Officer McGill returned to Officer Blan's patrol car, they were given a description of the suspect vehicle, which suddenly returned to the scene. They signaled the vehicle to stop, and the driver complied. As the two officers approached the vehicle, the driver gunned the engine and attempted to run them down. They fired on the car. The driver was hit and lost control of the car. The vehicle crashed and the occupants were taken into custody. Officer Blan's revolver was found in the vehicle and three rounds had been expended.

Officer Robert Blan was 26 years old, and had been a member of the Oakland Police Department for two years. He was survived by his wife and two children.